

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: STATUS OF LOCAL POLITICAL PARTIES

1. "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF SEPTEMBER 27 CARRIES BRIEF SUMMARY ON STATUS OF POLITICAL PARTIES HERE. REPORT REFRAINS FROM COMMENT ON ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITY BY KARAMANLIS SUPPORTERS PRIOR TO EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT BY PM BUT SPECULATES THAT LEADING LOCAL NUMBER OF CU APOSTATES (PROBABLY EX-MINISTER BAKATSELOS) AND OTHERS ARE LEANING TOWARD KARAMANLIS PARTY.
2. "VORRAS" IDENTIFIES CENTER UNION (CU) AS CURRENTLY MOST ACTIVE ON LOCAL SCENE. CU PLANNING ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HERE LATE SEPTEMBER 27 FOR APPROX 100 KEY FIGURES AND FORMER DEPUTIES. ACTIVITIES OF FORMER CU POLITICIANS ALSO REPORTED IN OUTLYING AREAS SUCH AS XANTHI (BALTATZIS), FLORINA (THEOCHARIDES), AND KOZANI (PAPACONSTANTINO).
3. RE PASOK PARTY OF ANDREAS PAPANDREOU, "VORRAS" REPORTS THAT LOCAL ACTIVITIES TO DATE POSE "NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR CU". PAPANDREOU SUPPORTERS, NEVERTHELESS, NOW ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE LOCAL MEETING

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WHICH WOULD BE FIRST APPEARANCE BY PAPANDREOU IN NORTHERN GREECE SINCE HIS RETURN. NOTE: PRELIMINARY PASOK ORGANIZING COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR THESSALONIKI AND KAVALA, BUT CONTAIN NO WELL KNOWN FORMER POLITICIANS. PRESS NOTICES REQUESTS ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS IN VARIOUS PROFESSIONS TO DECLARE SUPPORT PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30. PASOK MEETINGS ALSO HELD SEPTEMBER 27 AT KOZANI AND POLYGIROS. SEPARATE "VORRAS" REPORT SPECULATES THAT LOCAL "DEMOCRATIKI AMINA" GROUP, INCLUDING SIX LOCAL FIGURES JAILED UNDER JUNTA, MAY JOIN PASOK.

4. RE KKE, REPORT NOTES THAT TWO WINGS STILL DIVIDED, BUT INCREASINGLY ACTIVE HERE. BOTH DOMESTIC AND EXTERNAL BRANCHES HAVE OPENED LOCAL OFFICES FOLLOWING LEGALIZATION OF COMMUNIST PARTY. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIED COMMUNIST LEADERS ARE REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE UNLESS TWO WINGS MERGE.

5. ALL THESSALONIKI PAPERS OF SEPTMBER 27 ALSO CARRY REPORTS FROM ATHENS ON FORMATION OF "NEW POLITICAL FORCES" MOVEMENT BY PEZMATZOGLOU, MANGAKIS, ET AL. AMONG FOUNDING MEMBERS IS THESSALONIKI CU LEADER AND UNTIL SEPT 25 INTERIM MAYOR DEMETRIOS ZANNAS (THESSALONIKI 544).
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